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Technology Center 2600

Patent Application

Inventor N. Elsey et al.
Case 41698-1012
Serial No. 09/441,656 Examiner: D. Le
Filing Date November 21, 1999 Group Art Unit: 2743
Title Enhanced Directory Assistance Service for
Providing Individual or Group Directories

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 121

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 5, 2002.

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Signature

September 5, 2002
Date of Signature

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action dated August 21, 2002, requiring applicants to elect one of Inventions I and II identified by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 121.

The Examiner asserted that the identified inventions are distinct and "have separate utility as in a system not having the others." This position taken by the

2A

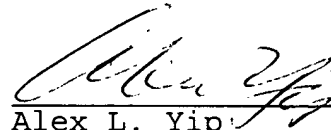
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Examiner is untenable. In fact, the present application discloses at least one illustrative embodiment of the invention in which the allegedly different inventions are implemented in the same system in an integrated fashion, jointly contributing to the system utility, namely, providing information assistance to a user. However, as required by the Examiner, applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Invention I represented by claims 22-29, 41-54 and 66-71 to be examined.

Respectfully,

By



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Date: September 5, 2002